

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows, this listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) A process for operating a water-bearing appliance with an optical sensor system for monitoring the treatment fluid in the appliance, said treatment fluid parameter values having known proper operation parameter values, comprising:

operating the water-bearing appliance in a program sequence with the water-bearing appliance alternately idle and in motion during said program sequence;

measuring the parameter values of said treatment fluid in said appliance during said program sequence; and

comparing said measured program sequence treatment fluid parameter values with the known proper operation treatment fluid parameter values to monitor said treatment fluid for abnormal deviations from said known proper operation treatment fluid parameter values.

11. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 10, including measuring and recording the chronological sequence of successively measured parameter values of said treatment fluid and comparing said measured sequence of parameter values to a chronological sequence of parameter values typical of a proper operation.

12. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 10, including calculating a differential value from at least a first measured parameter value during an idle phase with at least a second measured parameter value during a motion phase of said program sequence and comparing said differential value of said parameter values to a differential value of parameter values typical of a proper operation to monitor deviations from said differential value of parameter values typical of a proper operation.

13. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 12, including said differential value of parameter values typical of a proper operation is a predetermined reference value.

14. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 11, including at least one of generating a warning signal or discontinuing said program sequence when said chronological sequence of measured parameter values of said treatment fluid deviates from said chronological sequence of parameter values typical of a proper operation.

15. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 12, including at least one of generating a warning signal or discontinuing said program sequence when said differential value of measured parameter values of said treatment fluid deviates from said differential value of parameter values typical of a proper operation.

16. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 12, including measuring said treatment fluid to obtain several values and calculating an average value from said several measured values in each of said program idle and in motion phases and forming said differential value of parameter values typical of a proper operation from said average values.

17. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 11, including measuring said treatment fluid to obtain several values in each of said program idle and in motion phases and forming said chronological sequence of parameter values typical of a proper operation for both phases therefrom.

18. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 10, including said domestic appliance is a washing machine.

19. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 10, including said domestic appliance is a dishwashing machine.

Claims 20-29 (Canceled)